

17 March 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. C. D. Jackson

FROM: Allen W. Dulles

I have been in touch with Whitney with regard to your memo of March 15, 1954, and its enclosures with respect to the Polish Library, and enclose a copy of a letter I have just sent to Whitney Shepardson confirming that everything is in hand with regard to their continued adequate support of the library. I think you can rest easy on this score.

AWD

A. W. D.

cc: Mr. William R. Tyler

AWD:at

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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March 15, 1954

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Allen W. Dulles

FROM: C. D. Jackson

You will remember our brief word with Bill Tyler on the subject of the Polish Library in Paris. I am attaching the correspondence he sent me at your suggestion.

This is one of those things that has been investigated and reinvestigated and reinvestigated by the Agency. John Hughes spent hours inspecting the place in '51 and '52. I have been there many times. Royall Tyler was and Bill Tyler is thoroughly familiar with the operation, as are Levering Tyson and presumably Whitney Shepardson and probably Bob Lang.

The Library is an excellent library and probably the most complete and unusual repository of Polishiana anywhere in the world, inasmuch as each time something happened to Poland, dating back goodness knows how far, some Poles headed for Paris complete with swords, maps, uniforms, books, manuscripts, and what have you -- so wave after wave of materials have been deposited in this library. And not only professionally or technically is it a good place; it is also a super-charged Polish emotional shrine.

It will never be possible on a financial accounting basis to appraise the exact dollar value, but my strong hunch would be that in our work it is worth considerably more than the stipends being expended on Poles.


The amount of money involved is actually insignificant, so insignificant that I really feel that this is one of those things where we should stop expending "evaluation" energies, man hours, and dollars, and just support the Library through NCFE.

So that you won't think that I am another give-away artist with your funds, I have also started another line of possible financial support through Congressman Kersten.

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There exists a Senate Bill passed by the 80th Congress setting up the equivalent of a Polish Memorial Fund, one of whose beneficiaries was to be this Library. The actual money, however, was never appropriated by Congress. Kersten, who is now extending his Baltic inquiry into the other satellite countries, is going to push for that appropriation, and also try to enlist financial support from the Polish-Americans in this country, who as far as I know have never given a nickel.


A handwritten signature, possibly "CS", is written over a horizontal line. A long, thin vertical line extends downwards from the signature.

cc: Mr. William R. Tyler

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March 8, 1954

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. C. D. JACKSON

Subject: Polish Library in Paris.

With regard to our conversation last night, here is the memorandum which Count Pulaski gave me last week. As you will see, it states that the future of the Polish Library in Paris is extremely uncertain. Count Pulaski showed me a letter from Whitney Shepardson which stated, as far as I can remember, that a sum of \$1,000 was being made available but that he was unable to give any assurance with regard to the future.

I spoke with John Hughes about this situation and he authorized me to use his name as endorsing continued assistance very strongly. He recommended that I bring the matter up with you and Allen Dulles. If there is anything more that you think I can usefully do, please let me know.

William R. Tyler

William R. Tyler
Deputy Director,
Office of Western European Affairs.

Enclosure:

Memorandum from Count Pulaski,
February 26, 1954.

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